Pakistan's measures towards maintaining peace in the sub-continent

937. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the progress of the measures taken by Pakistan towards maintaining peace in the sub-continent like completely stopping infiltration across the Line of Control, giving up terrorism as an instrument of state policy, disbanding terrorist training camps, stopping financing and providing infrastructural support for terrorists and their organizations and handing over of 20 Indian criminals and others who are taking shelter in Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): After the commitment of President Musharraf to end cross border infiltration on a permanent basis, not to allow the territory of Pakistan to be used for terrorism anywhere in the world or any organisation in Pakistan to indulge in terrorism in the name of Kashmir, there has been some reduction in infiltration. However, infiltration and Pakistan sponsored terrorist violence continue on a significant scale. There is no evidence of any firm attempts being made to dismantle the infrastructure that supports and feeds corss border terrorism, including launching stations, communication centres and training camps.

On 31st December 2001, Government handed over to Pakistan a consolidated list of 20 fugitives from law, knewn to be residing in Pakistan with the request that they be apprehended and handed over to India. It was pointed out to Pakistan that 15 of the criminals in the list already had Interpol Red Corner notices issued against them, providing Pakistan sufficient basis to take action against them.

Pakistan has not responded positively to this request. The President, of Pakistan in his January 12 address to the National stated that there was no question of the Pakistani authorities handing over any Pakistan national to India. As regard the presence of non-Pakistan nationals, the President stated that Pakistan had not given any asylum to any such persons.